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YUGOSLAV LIVING STANDARD IMPROVES

1948 STANDARD OF LIVING -- Borba, No 314, 29 Dec 48

According to a speech by Boris Eldric, chairman of the Federal Planning Commission, the 1948 plan for rationed goods shows the following increases over 1947: cotton cloth 40.42 percent, wool cloth 62.5, artificial silk fabrics 29.73, thread 63.62, hosiery 64.16, knitted goods 93.3, leather shoes 34.37, and rubber shoes 300 percent.

Bread in 1948 was .80 percent wheat, whereas previously it has been made mostly of corn. The rationing plan for 1948 allowed 1,000 grams of bread for miners holding P-1a ration cards (800 grams in 1947), 750 for P-1b's (700 in 1947), 1,000 grams for P lumbermen, 700 grams for P-1's (650 in 1947), 500 grams for P-2a's (450 in 1947), 500 grams for P-2's (450 in 1947), 400 grams for P-3's (350 in 1947), 300 grams for small children (250 in 1947), 350 grams for older children (250 previously), and 300 grams for G's (250 previously).

In 1948, P-1 miners received 1,750 grams of sugar per month, instead of 1,500 grams, P-1a's received 1,500 grams, P-1b's received 1,400 instead of 1,200 grams, P lumbermen received 1,500 instead of 1,000 grams, P-1's still received 1,000 grams, P-2a's still received 1,100 grams, P-2's received 800 instead of 700 grams, D-1's still received 750 grams, D-2's received 750 instead of 550 grams, D-3's received 800 instead of 550 grams, and G's received 600 instead of 250 grams. The sugar-rationing plan was entirely fulfilled.

The worst supply problem has been in meats and fats. The sunflower crop was low in 1948, and the program of compulsory purchase of hogs from kulaks will not show results until 1949. Nevertheless, the 1948 plan for rationed fats was met 92 percent. P-1 and P-1a miners continued to receive 1,500 grams per month, F-1b's received 1,400 instead of 1,200 grams, P lumbermen received 1,500 instead of 1,200 grams, P-1's received 1,200 grams instead of 750 grams, P-2a's received 1,100 instead of 1,000 grams, P-2's

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received 1,100 instead of 650 grams, P-3's received 1,000 instead of 550 grams, D-1's received 400 instead of 350 grams, D-2's received 600 instead of 350 grams, D-3's received 800 instead of 350 grams, and G's received 600 instead of 350 grams. Consumers received 65 percent more rationed fats in 1948 than in 1947. Over 300,000 hogs have been taken from the kulaks in connection with the program to raise supplies of meats and fats.

In 1948 135 percent more meat was bought up than in 1947, but actual needs were met only 82 percent.

Some 581,000 tons of bread were consumed in 1939, 704,700 tons in 1947, and 789,480 tons in 1948, when the population was 3,700,000, 4,200,000, and 4,400,000, respectively. Consumption per nonagricultural inhabitant was 168.24 kilograms in 1938, 167.78 kilograms in 1947, and 179.42 kilograms in 1948.

Total Consumption

Commodity	1939	1947	1948	Per Capita Consumption Index: 1939 = 100 percent		
				1939	1947	1948
Bread (T)	581,000	704,700	789,480	100	99.73	106.65
Raw meat "	86,000	65,000	90,000	100	66.61	87.99
Fats "	51,556	38,000	57,500	100	64.97	98.83
Potatoes "	186,345	180,000	266,000	100	85.11	120.4
Sugar "	79,450	87,836	112,000	100	110.7	141.15
Tobacco "	10,798	12,606	15,700	100	116.74	145.4
Textiles (cotton and wool) (m)	150,080,000	117,230,000	167,183,000	100	78.11	111.4
Leather shoes (pr)	7,235,000	4,479,000	6,866,000			

As a result of the system of fixed prices, 100 kilograms of wheat, which would buy 219 kilograms of cement in 1939, will buy 279.32 kilograms in 1948, or 27.5 percent more. It will buy 211.28 instead of 144.76 kilograms of super-phosphate, 46 percent more; or 5.9 instead of 0.6 meters of window glass, 28.3 percent more; or 75 instead of 21.71 liters of kerosene for lighting, 245.5 percent more. One hundred kilograms of corn will buy 283 instead of 121 boxes of matches, 133.9 percent more; or five instead of three scythes, 66.7 percent more.

BONUS FOR BAD WORKING CONDITIONS -- Politika, No 13162, 17 Feb 49

The Ministers of Mining and Heavy Industry of the federal government have announced bonuses for mine workers who work under particularly difficult conditions. Work in the pits at high temperatures will entitle a miner to one dinar per hour for temperatures of 30 to 34 degrees centigrade, 1.50 dinars for 35 to 36 degrees, and 2 dinars for temperatures above 36 degrees. When at such temperatures the relative humidity is over 40 percent, the bonus will be increased by .50 dinar per hour.

Working in the pits in bad air in abandoned or burned sites entitles a miner to a bonus of .50 dinar per hour.

For working in the pits in water, a bonus of one to 2 dinars per hour is paid according to the amount of inconvenience caused by the water.

Total bonuses for work under particularly difficult conditions may not exceed 4 dinars per hour.

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A bonus of 20 dinars per day has been paid since 1 January to workers employed on the construction of the harbor of Ploce, because of the particularly difficult working and living conditions there. Payments of bonuses to mine workers also will be retroactive to 1 January.

BETTER NUTRITION FOR WORKERS -- Borba, No 38, 14 Feb 49

There are now about 570 blue-and-white collar workers' restaurants, serving over 200,000 workers, in operation in Yugoslav cities, industrial centers, and mines. Before the Order on Organization of Cooperative Meals was issued, the calorie count for two meals served in white-collar workers' dining halls averaged 2,200 and 2,800 in laborers' dining halls. The present calorie value in the combined blue-and-white collar workers' restaurants is over 3,000. Two meals in the restaurant of the Zenica Ironworks amount to 3,692 calories; the restaurant of "Litostroj" serves 3,952 calories; "Rade Koncar" serves 3,610 calories; and the Ljubljana mine serves 4,220 calories.

SKILLED LABOR FROM ABROAD -- Borba, No 40, 16 Feb 49

On 24 February the SS Partizanka arrived at Dubrovnik with 184 Yugoslav emigrants from Australia and New Zealand. Most of them are skilled agricultural or industrial workers. The group includes 152 men, 35 women, and 26 children. Twenty seven families, or 54 persons, will go to farm workers' cooperatives in Macedonia and the Vojvodina, while the rest will be allowed 2 to 6 weeks at home before they start work in the industry of their choice.

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